

June 4, 2008

California Fish and Game Commission
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
fgc@fgc.ca.gov

RE: MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force Integrated Preferred Alternative

Dear Members of the California Fish and Game Commission:

As members of the Regional Stakeholder Group (RSG) for the North Central Coast region, we worked diligently over the last year to collect and share information and negotiate marine protected area (MPA) network designs that meet the Science Advisory Team guidelines and balance economic impacts.

Additionally, in accordance with the Blue Ribbon Task Force's (BRTF) guidance for cross-interest support, we worked across interests to create an MPA network proposal that enjoyed broad stakeholder support.

Although we were unable to come to agreement as an RSG on a single alternative, we produced three alternative proposals for the BRTF. We write now to acknowledge that, while none of us got everything we wanted in an MPA network, the BRTF's "Integrated Preferred Alternative" draws on all three RSG proposals and is a network with which we can live.

For this reason, we encourage you to approve the Blue Ribbon Task Force's Integrated Preferred Alternative without any further changes.

Signed,

Rick Johnson, docent and trip leader (Proposal 1-3 co-lead)
Tom Baty, recreational fisherman (Proposal 1-3 co-lead)
Samantha Murray, Ocean Conservancy (Proposal 1-3 co-lead)
Josh Churchman, commercial fisherman
Ellen Faurot-Daniels, California Coastal Commission staff
Neal Desai, National Parks Conservation Association
Dr. Henry Fastenau, diving and boating safety officer, Bodega Marine Lab
Jay Yokomizo, commercial passenger fishing vessel operator
Francesca Koe, dive instructor
Dave Schaub, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Nick Tipon, Federated Indians of Graton
Bob Breen, former Manager of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve
Cassidy Teufel, California Coastal Commission staff
Patricia King, marine mammal and seabird docent
Craig Merrilees, recreational fisherman
Christopher Chin, Center for Oceanic Awareness, Research and Education
John Mellor, commercial fisherman
Craig Swolgaard, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Tom Mattusch, commercial passenger fishing vessel operator
Kellyx Nelson, San Mateo County Resource Conservation District